

Series "How Great A Salvation"
"Acceptance"
Romans 14:1-12
Study-39

Acceptance By Jesus Christ And His Followers should be one of the most wonderful realities of Christianity. Acts 10:34-35

Romans 15:7

Romans 14:1-15:13 Christian Freedom And Love: Paul deals with Cultural Issues, Non Moral Issues (Non-Essential Issues) **1 Corinthians 8-10;**
Galatians 4:8-11

Roman's was written from Corinth, along with **Galatians,**

Verse 2 "The eating of meat"

Verse 21 "The drinking of wine"

Verse 5 "Giving up of Jewish/Gentile feasts" **Romans 14:14**

Paul's counsel **Romans 14:15**

There were 2 classes of Christians spoken about in these chapters:

(1.) The Weak In Faith

(2.) The Strong In Faith

Romans 14:1-12 Acceptance: Paul addresses both **Weak** and **Strong.**

Romans 14:13-23 Walking In Love: Paul addresses **The Strong** –

Romans 15:1-13 Behaving Like Jesus: Jesus is the standard!

Thought Of Our Passage: "If God's Acceptance Includes Both Weak And Strong, Believers Are Then To Accept Those That God Accepts"

1. Verses 1-4 Mutual Acceptance:

2. Verses 5-9 Christ Centered Acceptance:

3. Verses 10-12 Non-Judgmental Acceptance:

1. Verses 1-4 Mutual Acceptance:

Romans 14:1 Now

Context - Paul left off in **Romans 13:11-14 Our Readiness For Jesus' Return: Romans 13:14 Jesus Is Coming; Grow Up:** Growing through yielding to Jesus, Word, and Prayer. Allow Jesus to shine through our lives in what we say and what we do. No longer children.

accept the one the word **accept** or **receive** – *"to take to oneself, to accept fully, accept friendship or hospitality"* (Context - Grow Up "Acceptance")

who is weak in faith, *"not fully trained or mature"* He has not yet discovered the meaning of Christian freedom; he is sensitive to sin. They pick out indifferent things that are neither moral nor immoral. **in faith**, believers that can't comprehend the full freedom in salvation. **Romans 8:1**

Why should we accept the ones that are weak in faith?
Romans 14:3 for God has accepted him.

one who is weak

note the contrast **Romans 15:1** **Now we who are strong**

but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions. Our acceptance is not so we can start *"debating, judging and changing them so as to accept our opinion, not to besiege him with continual criticisms"*

Romans 14:2

The Strong: One person has faith that he may eat all things,

The Weak: but he who is weak eats vegetables only. Leviticus 11

Because they could not be sure they just would not eat meat.

Daniel 1:8,12; 1 Corinthians 8:7; 10:28

Mark 7:18-23; 1 Timothy 4:4-5

The Strong: Romans 14:3 The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, This word **contempt** – means *"to throw out as nothing, to look down as worthless"*

The Weak: and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, The Weak can be the biggest bullies in the church!

St. Augustine ... *"In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things charity"*

for God has accepted him. God accepts only through faith.

Romans 14:1 weak in faith, Romans 3:28

Romans 14:4 Who are you to judge the servant of another?

1 Corinthians 4:5

To his own master he stands or falls; Believers are to answer to the Lord.

and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

2. Verses 5-9 Christ Centered Acceptance:

Romans 14:5 One man regards one day above another,

This would be the weak brother that has the idea that certain days are more holy than another.

another regards every day alike. The mature sees these days as another day to thank God for the new life that He has given to us.

Colossians 2:16-17

Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind.

(Capitulation Versus Conviction)

Capitulation; some practices come from pressure, following the crowd,
Conviction; because we have studied it out and prayer)

Romans 14:6

Both Strong And Weak Should Do The Will Of God:

Lord 7 times in Verses 6-9

The Lordship of Jesus Christ over the individual Christian.

and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God. He is thankful for what he does not do, is thankful for all he has and is able to do.

Romans 14:7 For not one of us lives for himself,

That is what a Christian is, a new creation in Christ. They no longer live for themselves but now live for Christ. **Galatians 2:20**

and not one dies for himself; that whether we are living or dying we are doing it for the Lord. **Philippians 1:21-23**

Romans 14:8 Death is not the chasm that ends in annihilation; it is the gateway that leads to Christ.

Christ centered life and a Christ centered death.

Romans 14:9 that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. He took the penalty of our sins, the very wrath of God, so we could be forgiven.

Eternal Life Is Both Quantity And Quality Of Life:

3. Verses – 10-12 Non-Judgmental Acceptance:

Romans 14:10 But you, why do you judge your brother? (Criticize)

We are to judge sin issues within the church (**Matthew 18:15-20**) but the non-essentials we are to leave with God.

Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt?

This is the idea of looking down upon someone.

For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God.

This term **judgment seat** Greek word *bema*, "a step, a rostrum, judgment-seat, throne" Olympic, Greek games the place of rewards for contestants. (All Believers)

1 Corinthians 3:12-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10

The Judgment seat that is for all non-Believers only is called "**The Great White Throne**" **Revelation 20:11-**

Romans 14:11 Paul cites the future universal judgment of all believers - **Isaiah 45:23**

"AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, Isaiah 45:23

EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD." Without exception. **Philippians 2:10-11**

Romans 14:12 So then each one of us We have to answer for ourselves. Not for another. **John 21:19-22**

Application:

- 1.** God Is Our Master, Not Other Believers. God Alone Has The Power To Make Those That Are His To Stand:
- 2.** Both The Weak And The Strong Must Do The Will Of God. Not Through Capitulation From Pressure, And Following The Crowd, But Through Conviction Because We Have Become Assured Through Our Faith In God:
- 3.** We Are Not To Judge Other Believers Because Each One Of Us Will Stand Before God To Be Judged. In That Day, **EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD."** We Will Then See Clearly And Will Bow Before God And Praise Him Because Everything God Did And Allowed Was Good: